Lohmannella and Simognathus (Halacaridae: Acari) from Western Australia: description of two new species and reflections on the distribution of these genera

Ilse Bartsch

Deutsches Zentrum für Marine Biodiversitätsforschung, Forschungsinstitut Senckenberg, Notkestr. 85, 22607 Hamburg, Germany, e-mail: bartsch@meeresforschung.de

Abstract – Two new littoral species, Lohmannella septemsetosa sp. nov. and Simognathus cruciferus sp. nov. are described and the description of L. pinggi Otto, 1994 is supplemented. The genera Lohmannella and Simognathus are distributed world-wide. More species are recorded from the southern than northern hemisphere. Lohmannella is abundant in warm-temperate to polar regions but rare in the tropics. In contrast, most records of Simognathus are from tropical and warm-temperate areas. According to external morphological characters and distribution, different lineages of Lohmannella species developed in the north and south. Simognathus demonstrates no such north-south discrimination.

INTRODUCTION

The two genera Lohmannella and Simognathus include 35 and 43 species and subspecies, respectively (to the end of 2004). Representatives of both are distributed world-wide, but there is a distinct difference between the faunas of the northern and southern hemisphere. Simognathus is more diverse in the south than in the north (Bartsch 1994, 2004). More marine Lohmannella species are recorded from the southern than northern hemisphere, though locally species diversity is high in the north, too. Both genera are present in Western Australia. One Lohmannella species has been described from Rottnest Island, off Perth (Bartsch 1993b). A record of another species and the description of a new species, from Esperance, will be presented in this paper. Ten Simognathus species are already known to belong to the Western Australian fauna (Bartsch 1993b, 1994, 2003b), and a new species from Esperance is described below.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The material studied was collected during Marine Biological Workshops held in Western Australia, on Rottnest Island and in Esperance. The fauna and flora around Rottnest Island is dominated by warm-temperate species, although strongly influenced by tropical elements (Wells and Walker 1993). Esperance lies within the warm-temperate zone (Knox 1963; Wilson and Allen 1987; Ponder and Wells 1998; O'Hara and Poore 2000).

The material was collected by the author. The mites were cleared in lactic acid and mounted in

glycerine jelly. Slides with holotypes and voucher specimens are deposited in the Western Australian Museum, Perth (WAM), apart from one *Lohmannella* specimen in the Zoological Institute and Museum in Hamburg (ZMH).

Abbreviations used in the descriptions are as follows: AD, anterior dorsal plate; AE, anterior epimeral plate; ds-1 to ds-5, first to fifth pair of dorsal setae numbered from anterior backward; GA, genitoanal plate; glp-1 to glp-5, pair of gland pores numbered 1 to 5 from anterior backward; GO, genital opening; GP, genital plate; OC, ocular plate(s); P-2 to P-4, second to fourth palpal segment; pas, parambulacral seta(e); PD, posterior dorsal plate; PE, posterior epimeral plate(s); pgs, perigenital setae; sgs, subgenital setae. The legs, their segments and claws are numbered I to IV. The leg segments 1 to 6 are trochanter, basifemur, telofemur, genu, tibia, and tarsus. The setation formula of the legs is presenting the number of setae from trochanter to tarsus.

The position of a seta is given in a decimal system, with reference to the length from anterior to posterior or basal to distal.

SYSTEMATICS

Family Halacaridae Murray, 1877
Subfamily Lohmannellinae Viets, 1927
Genus Lohmannella Trouessart, 1901
Lohmannella septemsetosa sp. nov.

Figures 1A-K, 2A-F

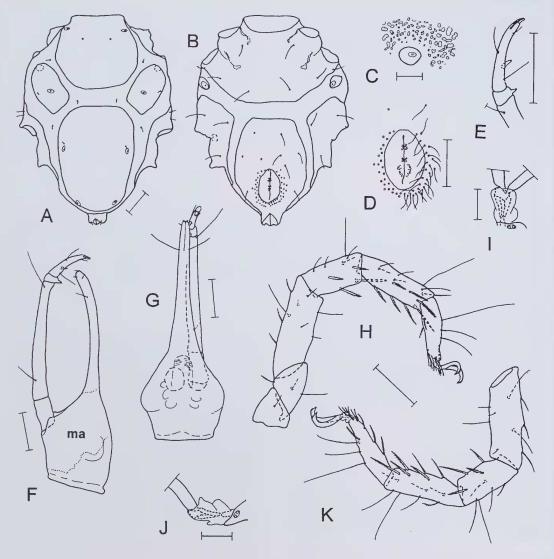


Figure 1 A-K. Lohmannella septemsetosa sp. nov., holotype male. A, Idiosoma, dorsal; B, idiosoma, ventral; C, part of OC with gland pore; D, genital opening; E, P-3 and P-4, lateral; F, gnathosoma, lateral (stippled area enclosing maze-like structured integument); G, gnathosoma, ventral; H, leg I, medial; I, ambulacrum of tarsus I, ventral; J, ambulacrum of tarsus II, medial; K, telofemur to tarsus II, medial. (ma, area with maze-like epicuticula). A, B, D-H, K: scale = 50 μm; C, I, J: scale = 10 μm.

Material Examined

Holotype

Male, Lucky Bay, Cape le Grand, 33°59'S, 122°13'E, near Esperance, Western Australia, Australia; algal tufts with sediment, 30 cm below water edge, 15 February 2003 (WAM T62841).

Paratype

One deutonymph, same data as for holotype (WAM T62842).

Diagnosis

Idiosomal length 410 µm, gnathosomal length 284 µm, ratio idiosoma:gnathosoma 0.69. Surface of plates with reticulate and maze-like ornamented epicuticula. Gland pores large. Pair of ds-1 posterior to level of gland pores. OC with gland pore in middle of plate. P-2 without spiniform ventral process. Genu and tibia I with four and seven bipectinate ventral setae. Tarsi I to IV with 2, 2, 3, 2 bipectinate ventral setae. Claws with accessory process.

Description

Male

Idiosoma. Length 410 μm, width 302 μm. Dorsal plates covered by delicately reticulate or maze-like epicuticula. Length of AD 142 µm, width 159 µm; pair of gland pores with wide, oblong alveolus, almost 10 µm in width (Figure 1C). Length of OC 102 μm, width 57 μm. Gland pore in middle of plate, pore canaliculus at the same level but in lateral margin (Figure 1A). A very faint, cornea-like structure near anterior margin. Length of PD 202 μm, width 150 μm, anterior margin truncate, with broadly rounded corners. With two pairs of large gland pores as illustrated. Pair of ds-1 (setae broken) posterior to the level of pair of gland pores. Following pairs of setae small; ds-2, ds-3 and ds-4 within striated integument, ds-5 immediately anterior to glp-4. Adanal setae on anal cone.

Ventral plates with maze-like or irregularly

reticulate or foveate epicuticula. Length of AE 137 μm , width 269 μm . Pair of platelets between AE and PE, each platelet with large gland pore (Figure 1B). Length of PE 179 μm ; each plate with two dorsal and three ventral setae. Length of GA 207 μm , width 144 μm ; anterior margin truncate. Plate with about nine outlying setae and 52 setae close around GO (Figure 1D). Length of GO 63 μm , width 43 μm ; distance between anterior margin of GO and that of GA equalling 1.5 times length of GO. Genital sclerites with four pairs of spurlike sgs. Three pairs of internal genital acetabula shining through genital sclerites.

Gnathosoma. Slender, length 284 μm, or 0.69 times of idiosomal length. Width of gnathosoma 107 μm, length:width ratio 1:0.27. Lateral flank of gnathosomal base with an area with maze-like ornamented epicuticula (Figure 1F). Pharyngeal plate far from reaching posterior margin of gnathosoma (Figure 1G). Rostrum slender, much

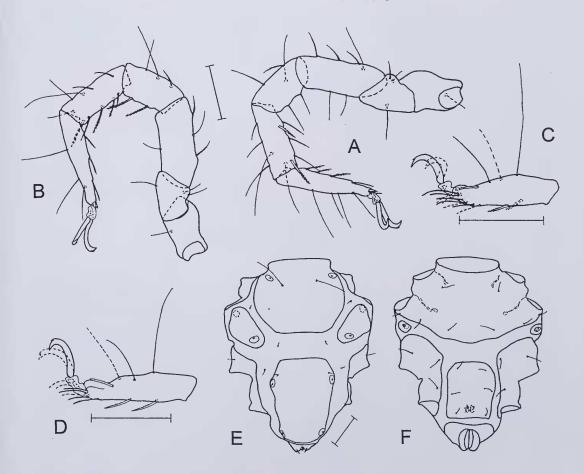


Figure 2 A–F. Lohmannella septemsetosa sp. nov. A, Leg III, medial, male; B, leg IV, medial, male; C, tarsus I, lateral, male (medial setae and claw in broken line); D, tarsus II, medial, male (lateral setae and claw in broken line); E, idiosoma, dorsal, deutonymph; F, idiosoma, ventral, deutonymph. Scale = 50 µm.

longer than gnathosomal base. Both pairs of maxillary setae short and situated in posterior quarter of rostrum. Palps slender. P-2 with two setae, basal setae near segment's base, at 0.2. P-3 with spur-like process (no spine). Basal portion of P-4 with two slender setae and one spur, apical portion with solenidion, small seta and spur-like tip (Figure 1E).

Legs. Slender, integument with maze-like sculpturing. Leg I slighly longer, leg IV shorter than idiosoma. Telofemur I about 3.4 times longer than high (Figure 1H). Leg chaetotaxy (pas excluded, solenidia included): leg I, 1, 3, 9, 9, 14, 11 (Figure 1H); leg II, 1, 3, 9, 9, 13, 9 (Figure 1K); leg III, 1, 3, 6, 5, 10, 8 (Figure 2A); leg IV, 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, 6 (Figure 2B). Several of short dorsal setae delicately serrate. Genua I to IV with 4, 4, 2, 2 ventral setae; setae of genua I, II and IV bipectinate. Tibiae I to IV with 7, 6, 5, 5 ventral setae; 7, 4, 2, 3 of these setae bipectinate. Tarsi I to IV with 4, 4, 4, 3 dorsal setae, solenidia included. Solenidion of tarsus 1 11 µm in length and in dorsolateral position (Figure 2C); on tarsus II solenidion 14 µm in length and in dorsal position (Figure 2D). Tarsi I to IV with 2, 2, 3, 2 bipectinate ventral setae and 5, 3, 1, 1 slender setae. Tarsus I with pair of doubled pas; tarsus II with medial pas doubled, lateral pas single; tarsus III with spiniform lateral pas and a seti- plus a spiniform medial pas; pair of pas of tarsus IV spiniform.

Claws with accessory process. Central sclerite small, without claw-like process. All tarsi with carpite between end of tarsi and claws (Figure 1I and J). Carpite divaricate, 9 µm in length.

Deutonymph

Idiosomal length 290 µm. Shape of AD similar to that of male. OC shorter; pair of gland pores close to posterior corner of plate (Figure 2E). PD shorter and more narrow than that plate of male. AE with four pairs of setae (Figure 2F); PE with one dorsal and three ventral setae. GP and anal plate separated. GP with three pairs of pgs and two pairs of minute, seta-like sgs. Length of gnathosoma 116 µm, i.e. 0.80 of idiosomal length. Leg chaetotaxy: leg I, 1, 3, 5-6, 5-6, 10, 9; leg II, 1, 3, 5-6, 6, 9, 7; leg III, 1, 3, 4, 4, 7, 6; leg IV, 1, 1, 2, 3, 6, 4, 4. Genu I with pair of bipectinate setae. On genu II ventromedial seta bipectinate, ventrolateral seta slender and very faintly pectinated. Ventral seta of genu III slender, that seta of genu IV bipectinate. Tibia I with two ventromedial and three ventrolateral setae, these five setae bipectinate. Tibia II with two pairs of bipectinate setae. Tibia III with one large bipectinate and one short, slightly pectinate seta, and tibia IV with two to three strong, bipectinate setae. Tarsi I-IV with 2, 2, 2, 1 bipectinate ventral setae and 3, 1, 0, 0 eupathid ventral setae.

Etymology

The specific name is derived from *septem* (Latin), seven, and *setosus* (Latin), with setae, as tibia I of this species bears seven ventral setae.

Remarks

The most conspicuous characters of Lohmannella septemsetosa are the gland pores with large alveoli and the seven bipectinate ventral setae on tibia I. A similar combination of characters is present in L. dictyota Bartsch, 1992, L. gaussi Lohmann, 1907, L. kerguelensis Lohmann, 1907, and L. pinggi Otto, 1994. Records of L. dictyota are from the southwestern Pacific, from the Society Islands, the Coral Sea and Great Barrier Reef (Bartsch 1992; Otto 2000). L. pinggi is known from Victoria and New South Wales, Australia (Otto 1994), L. gaussi from Antarctica and sub-Antarctica, from off Wilhelm II Land, the islands Crozet, Marion and South Sandwich (Lohmann 1907; Bartsch 1979a, 1993a; Newell 1984), and L. kerguelensis from the Kerguelen Islands and Palmer Archipelago (Lohmann 1907; Bartsch 1993a). Lohmannella dictyota has an unusual elongate PD with a prominent ornamentation, the ds-3 are situated on the PD, the pair of gland pores 2 are in the medial corners of the OC, and the P-2 has a spiniform ventral process. Lohmannella gaussi is, compared with congeners, large-sized, its legs and gnathosoma are long and slender; the glp-2 are near the lateral margin of the OC, and the PD bears a V-shaped porose area, characters not present in *L*. septemsetosa. In contrast to L. septemsetosa the OC of L. kerguelensis has a cornea and the ds-3 are in the anterior rounded margin of PD. Lohmannella pinggi has much shorter legs than *L. septemsetosa*, elongate OC and the ds-1 are situated distinctly anterior to the level of gland pore 1.

Lohmannella pinggi Otto, 1994 Figure 3A–G

Lohmannella pinggi Otto, 1994: 32–35, figures 1–8.

Material Examined

One female, Rottnest Island, Cape Vlamingh, ca 32°02'S, 115°27'E, Western Australia, Australia; from corallines on rocky platform, 10 January 1991 (WAM T62843). One female, Rottnest Island, Cape Vlamingh; from corallines on rocky platform, 9 January 1991 (WAM T62844). One female (damaged), Rottnest Island, Cape Vlamingh, Western Australia, Australia; from corallines on rocky platform, 9 January 1991 (ZMH).

Diagnosis

Idiosomal length 279–303 µm, gnathosomal length 192–197 µm. Dorsal plates delicately reticulated. OC oblong, its length more than twice the width. With five pairs of large gland pores; glp-

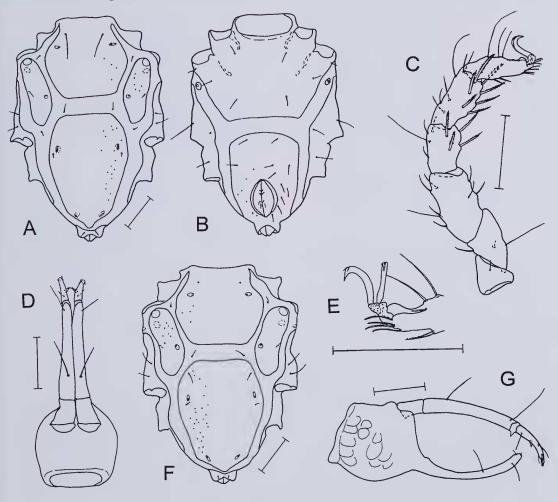


Figure 3 A–G. *Lohmannella pinggi* Otto, 1984, female. A, Idiosoma, dorsal; B, idiosoma, ventral; C, leg I, medial; D, gnathosoma, dorsal; E, tip of tarsus II, medial; F, idiosoma, dorsal, G, gnathosoma, lateral. Scale = 50 μm.

3 near medial margin of OC. Pair of ds-1 anterior to level of gland pores. Female GA with nine pairs of pgs. Gnathosoma 2.4 times longer than wide, length ratio idiosoma to gnathosoma 1:0.65. No ventral spiniform process on P-2. Basal seta of P-2 strong, situated in basal half. Genu I with two pairs of bipectinate setae; tibia I with seven such setae. Tarsi I to IV with 2, 2, 4, 2 bipectinate ventral setae. Accessory process of claws with minute tines.

Supplementary Description

Idiosomal length 279 and 303 μ m, gnathosomal length 192 and 197 μ m. Dorsal plates delicately reticulated and with scattered deep canaliculi (Figure 3A). OC oblong, length more than twice its width; anterior cornea distinct, posterior one faint. Gland pores distinct, their alveoli 7 μ m in width; glp-2 in ventral position, glp-3 on OC near

its medial margin, at about 0.57. Pair of ds-1 anterior to the level of gland pores. Two females (WAM T62843 and ZMH) with ds-2, ds-3 and ds-4 within striated integument (Figure 3A); ds-5 adjacent to glp-4. One female (WAM T62844) with pair of ds-4 situated on PD (Figure 3F). PE long, extending anteriad beyond middle of OC. Female with 18 pgs. Interval between anterior margin of GA and GO equalling 1.1 times the length of the latter. Gnathosomal length 192 and 197 µm, i.e., 0.65-0.69 of idiosomal length. P-2 without ventral process (Figure 3G); its basal seta situated at 0.22 (Figure 3D). Legs short. Genua and tibiae with articular membranes; tarsi with small fossa membranes. Length:height ratio of telofemora I and II 2.0, that of telofemora III and IV 1.6. Leg chaetotaxy (solenidia included, pas excluded): leg I, 1, 3, 8, 8, 13, 10; leg II, 1, 3, 8, 8, 12, 9; leg III, 1, 3, 6, 4–5, 9, 8; leg IV, 1, 3, 4, 4, 8, 5–6. Number of bipectinate ventral setae of genua I to IV: 4, 2, 0, 1; of tibia I to IV: 7, 3, 1, 4 (one of the latter slender); of tarsi I to IV: 2, 2, 4, 2. Tarsus I with four dorsal setae (solenidion included), two bipectinate ventral setae, two pairs of ventral eupathia and a pair of pas (Figure 3E); lateral pas doubled. Tarsus II with four dorsal setae, three ventral eupathidia and pair of pas; lateral pas doubled. Tarsus III with four dorsal setae and pair of pas, lateral pas setiform, medial pas including both a seti- and spiniform seta. Tarsus IV with three dorsal setae, none or one smooth ventral seta and pair of spiniform pas. Accessory process of claws with two tines (Figure 3E).

Remarks

Three females were taken amongst shallow water corallines, of which two agree almost perfectly with the description of L. pinggi by Otto (1994). Differences are: the somewhat smaller size (303 μ m vs 378–437 μ m), shape of ds-1 (long and slender vs spiniform), number of corneae (two vs one), presence of the ds-5 (vs absence), number of setae on AE (four vs three pairs) and number of dorsal setae of the legs. The five last mentioned differences are thought to be due to either a range of great variability in the type series or inadequate description; the difference in size may partly be due to the mounting.

One of the present females has the ds-4 inserted on the PD instead, as usual, within the striated integument posterior to the OC. Apart from this character, that female agrees with the other specimens. In most of the Lohmannella species the ds-2, ds-3 and ds-4 are situated on tiny sclerites within the striated integument; intraspecific variations, if present at all, are expected to be within a very limited range. The ds-2 in general are between the AD and OC, in some few species the ds-2 are in or on the lateral margin of the AD. The ds-3 are anterior to the PD, in ten species the setae are in the margin or on the PD; the ds-4 are inserted immediately posterior to the OC; one exception is L. multispina Newell, 1984 where the setae are found in the corner of the OC, other exceptions are the freshwater species, i.e., L. andrei (Angelier, 1951), L. heptapegoni Petrova, 1966, L. curvimandibulata (Petrova, 1969), L. cvetkovi (Petrova, 1965), and L. stammeri Viets, 1939. In these species both the ds-4 and ds-5 are inserted on the PD. These five species live in nearshore and continental waters in countries around the Mediterranean (Bartsch 1996; Pesic 2004).

> Subfamily Simognathinae Viets, 1927 Genus *Simognathus* Trouessart, 1889

Simognathus cruciferus sp. nov. Figure 4A–L

Material Examined

Holotype

Female, Duke of Orleans Bay, ca 33°55′S, 122°35′E, near Esperance, Western Australia, Australia; demosponge overgrown with green algae and corallines, just below water line, 17 February 2003 (WAM T62845).

Diagnosis

Idiosomal length 375 µm. Dorsal plates colourless, almost uniformly foveate and with numerous delicate canaliculi. AD and OC with cornea-like structures. OC almost triangular. Pair of ds-4 on PD. Adanal setae in ventral position. AE with marginal areolae with foveae and canaliculi, integument in a cross-shaped median area almost smooth. GA with such smooth integument in a T-shaped area. Anterior margin of female GA arched. P-2 with ventral protuberance and bristle. Tibia I with wide but short, bluntly ending spine.

Description

Female

Idiosoma. Length 375 μm, width 200 μm. Dorsal plates almost uniformly foveate (Figure 4A), each fovea surrounded by delicate canaliculi. All plates colourless. Length of AD 157 μm, width 97 μm; its posterior margin truncate. First pair of gland pores small, slightly posterior to the level of insertion of leg I. An ovate smooth area near anterior margin. Length of OC 40 μm, width 24 μm, with ovate cornea. Length of PD 165 μm, width 95 μm, 1.7 times longer than wide. Dorsal setae small. Pair of ds-1 on AD close to pair of gland pores. Pair of ds-2 within striated integument immediately anterior to OC. Pair of ds-3 in distolateral corners of AD; ds-4 and ds-5 on PD; adanal setae on anal cone, in ventral position.

AE marginally foveate but smooth immediately posterior to insertion of legs I and II and in a ventral cross-shaped area (Figure 4B). Foveae surrounded by delicate canaliculi. Two pairs of internal scars (muscle attachment) in middle of cruciform area. Length of AE 142 µm, width 199 μm; epimeral processes l large, slightly raised, epimeral vesicles large, with three pairs of ventral setae, posteriormost pair only slightly posterior to second pair of setae. Length of PE 177 µm. Length of GA 155 µm, width 108 µm, integument in a Tshaped area almost smooth, remainder foveate. Length of GO 43 μm, width 25 μm; distance between anterior margin of GO and that of GA 1.7 times length of GO. With four pairs of pgs on either side of GO.

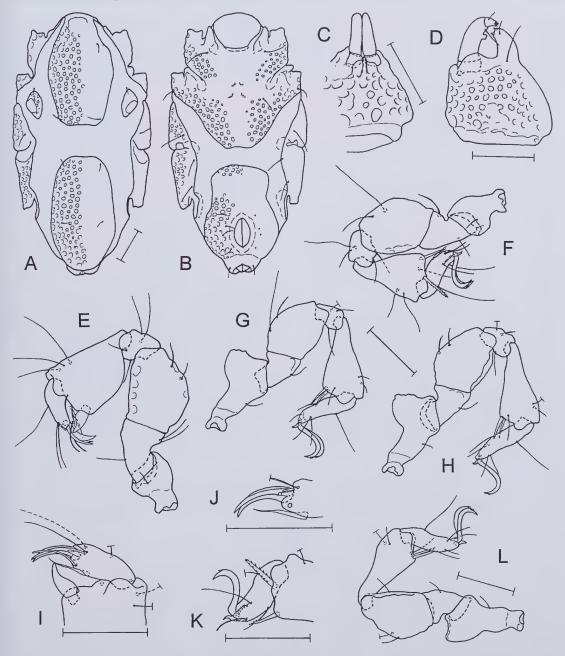


Figure 4 A–L. Simognathus cruciferus sp. nov., holotype female. A, Idiosoma, dorsal; B, idiosoma, ventral; C, gnathosoma, dorsal; D, gnathosoma, lateral; E, leg I, medial; F, leg II, medial; G, leg III, lateral; H, leg IV, lateral; l, tarsus and tibia I, lateral (medial parambulacral seta and claw omitted, other medial setae in broken line); J, tip of tarsus I, lateral (parambulacral seta, medial claw and fossary seta omitted), K, tarsus and tibia II, medial (lateral setae omitted); L, leg IV, medial. Scale = 50 µm.

Gnathosoma. Length 97 μm, width 85 μm. Integument of gnathosomal base foveate. Rostrum short. Basal pair of maxillary setae near base of rostrum, apical pair of setae shorter, in posterior third of rostrum (Figure 4D). Tip of rostrum with

two pairs of rostral setae. Palps three-segmented; inserted adjacent. In dorsal aspect tectum with median keel, else scale-like and partly obscuring palpal base (Figure 4C). P-2 with ventral protuberance and one bristle-like seta (Figure 4D).

Third segment short, with one basal seta and three short, stout apical setae.

Legs. Integument almost smooth. Length:height ratio of telofemora 1.4. Tibiae club-shaped, length:height ratio of tibiae I and II 1.5, that of tibiae III and IV 2.2 (Figure 4E-H). Tibiae longer than telofemora. Leg chaetotaxy (solenidia excluded, pas included): leg I, 1, 2-3, 2, 4, 5, 6; leg II, 1, 2, 2, 4, 5, 6; legs III and IV, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 5. Spine of tibia I wide but short, ending bluntly (Figure 4I). Tibia II with two stout, roughly bipectinate setae (Figure 4K); tibiae III and IV each with pair of bipectinate setae. Tarsus I with tapering ventral seta and pair of pas singlets, three dorsal setae, a short dorsolateral solenidion adjacent to digitiform famulus (Figure 4]). Tarsus II with slender ventral seta, pair of pas singlets, three dorsal setae and a solenidion, 6 µm long, adjacent to short medial fossa membrane (Figure 4K). Tarsi III and IV each with three dorsal setae, single ventral seta, one medial pas, but no lateral pas.

Paired claws of tarsus I rather slender, scytheshaped, smooth, median claw stout. Paired claws of tarsi II to IV similar in width, claw-shaped with accessory process. Median claw minute.

Abnormality

One of the fourth legs is five-segmented (Figure 4L), its genu is absent, the telofemur bears a ventral seta (which is absent in 'normal' legs), the tibia is somewhat longer than its counterpart.

Etymology

The specific name is derived from *crux* (Latin), a cross, and *ferre* (Latin), to bear, as on the AE the shape of the area with smooth integument resembles a cross.

Remarks

The species belonging to Simognathus can roughly be divided into those with distinct, more or less triangular OC and those with the OC reduced to narrow sclerites, Simognathus cruciferus is a species with distinct OC. Other easily recognized characters are (1) the ornamentation of the dorsal plates, (2) the ornamentation of the ventral plates, and (3) the absence or presence of a ventral protuberance on P-2 and the insertion of the seta relative to the protuberance. In S. cruciferus the dorsal plates are uniformly foveate; a rather narrow cruciform central area of the AE is smooth, its large marginal areas are foveate; P-2 bears a distinct protuberance separated from the seta. With recently described species included (Chatterjee and Chang 2004; Pepato and Tiago 2004; Bartsch 2004, present paper), 44 species are known, 18 of them having the OC reduced to sclerites. In the remaining 26 species, with rather large OC, the AE is either foveate in the margins as well as in the median, or the foveate ornamentation is present only marginally and the integument in a large median area is delicately porose or almost smooth. Simognathus cruciferus is at present the only species with smooth integument in a narrow cruciform area.

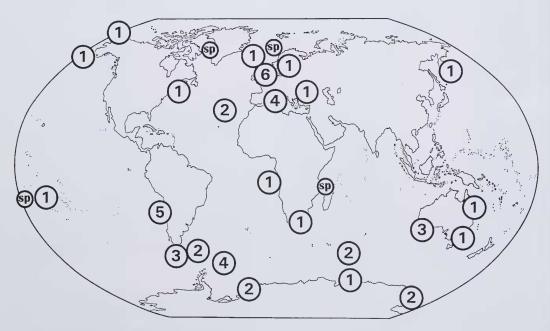


Figure 5 Distribution of the genus Lohmannella and number of species in relevant areas.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE GENERA LOHMANNELLA AND SIMOGNATHUS

With the inclusion of the above described species, 36 Lohmannella subspecies/species are known (Tables 1 and 2). The genus is spread all over the globe. Apart from marine representatives (Table 1) there are also five freshwater species (Table 2). Lohmannella inhabits cavernicolous mesopsammal habitats, and is present amongst tufts of epiphytic and epilithic algae, corallines or colonies of bryozoans and hydrozoans, coarse sand and rubble. The genus inhabits a depth range from the lower tidal zone to the abyss. The genus seems to be diverse in Antarctic, sub-Antarctic and coldtemperate South American waters and in the Mediterranean and English Channel area (Figure 5). In contrast, a single species is recorded from the north-western Atlantic (Newell 1947; Bartsch 1979b) and one (?) species from the Northern Pacific Ocean, from Alaska, Kamchatka and the Kuril Islands (Newell 1951; Makarova 1977, 1978). The genus seems to be rare in the tropics. One record is from shallow water, viz. L. dictyota from the Society Islands and tropical Queensland (Bartsch 1992; Otto 2000). Other species from low latitudes, L. cygna Bartsch, 1988, from ca 9°S, 12°E, and Lohmannella sp. from 11°S, 47°E, are from depths greater than 400 m (Bartsch 1982, 1988a). There is a predominance of species in the south, with 21 vs 10 marine subspecies/species in the north (Table 1).

To the latter figure three more species might be added: the specimens from the depth in the Norwegian Basin, from 64–69°N, 0–10°E (Bartsch 1978), from the Sula coral reef off Norway, 64°N, 8°E (Bartsch 2003a), and an undescribed species from eastern Greenland. The freshwater species are not included.

One very obvious character of Lohmannella species is the presence and size of the gland pores. All five pairs may be distinct, often within large alveoli (as described above), or one or more pairs of gland pores are minute, hardly recognizable and hence often not mentioned in species descriptions. All northern Atlantic species have minute or inconspicuous gland pores, whereas many southern shallow water species have pores within large alveoli. In the deep-water species all five pairs of pores are present (although they may be replaced by setulae) but the pores are small. Spiniform processes on the second palpal segment are present in about one-third of southern hemisphere species, in species living in tidal and shallow subtidal coarse sand and rubble. Northern species have four to six bipectinate ventral setae on tibia I, southern species five to eight such setae.

The genus *Simognathus* is distributed in all oceans, in tropical, warm- and cold-temperate and sub-Antarctic biogeographical provinces. Its absence from the Arctic and Antarctic regions may be due to restricted sampling. Records of *Simognathus* are from the low water edge to

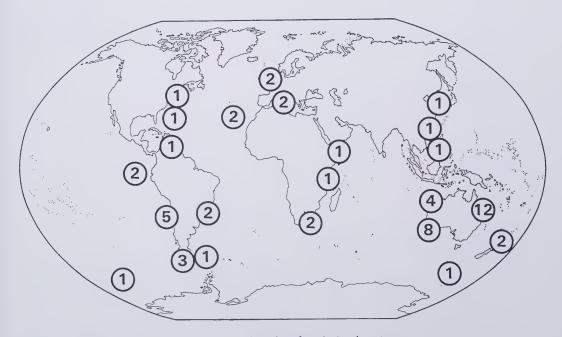


Figure 6 Distribution of the genus Simognathus and number of species in relevant areas.

 Table 1
 The genus Lohmannella. List of marine species, morphological characters and collecting data.

species	I	п	III	IV	>	VI	VI	VIII	XI
Northern Hemisphere									
beringi Newell, 1951	~ ·	~	~	~	<i>~</i> .	71N, 160W 52–57N, 173E–170W 52–55N, 158–166E 47–50N 152–56	Arctic Alaska Kamchatka Kuril Is	0-39	algae, sand
falcata (Hodge, 1863)	a	0	4	9	7	45-65N, 21W-21E 41-45N, 67-71W 42-44N, 3-16E	N Europe NE America Mediterranean	0-300	colonial organims, algae, sediment,
kervillei (Trouessart, 1894) multisetosa Bartsch, 1986	о о	00	22	9		38–53N, 28W–1E 43N, 5E	N Europe Mediterranean	tidal 10-45	corallines, sand sediment
norvegica Viets, 1927 nudipes Bartsch, 1977	<i>a a</i>	0		9 2	1 0	49–58N, 4W–11E, 50–60N, 5W–4E, 49N, 4W	N Europe N Europe N Europe	0-sublittoral tidal	sediment
rustica Bartsch, 1977 steueri steueri Viets, 1940 steueri reducta Bartsch, 1986 subfalcata Bartsch, 2003	0000	0000	2000	rv rv 4 0	1 1-2 0-2	490', 4W 450', 14E 430', 6E 300', 28W	N Europe Mediterranean Mediterranean NE Atlantic	tidal 25–28 20–40 318–321	crustose corallines shell rubble, algae sediment
Southern Hemisphere									
africana Bartsch, 1992 antarctica Newell, 1984	+ +	0 0	4 4	9	2	33S, 28E 64S, 64W 66S, 136E 77S 166F	South Africa Palmer Peninsula Terre Adélie Poes Irland	0 6-460	shell rubble algae, bryozoans
arenaria Bartsch, 1993 bihamata Viets, 1950 bispina Newell, 1984 consimilis Bartsch, 1993	++++	2020	4-44	9999	2712	325, 115E 52–54S, 37–58W 53S, 72W 57S, 77W	Nos Island SW Australia Falkland, S. Georgia Chile	tidal shallows tidal	coarse sand sand, rubble, algae coarse sand
cygna Bartsch, 1988 dictyota Bartsch, 1992	+ +	0 1	2 22	2-8	100	95, 12E 16S, 152W 15–19S, 145–151E	Angola Basin Society Islands NE Australia	1430 tidal-17	coral rubble, coarse sand
fukusliimai Imamura, 1968	(+)	0 0	4 .	<u> </u>	7	69S, 31E 72S, 172E 71-74S, 12-29W	Prince Harald Coast Ross Sea Weddell Sea	190–820	
<i>gaiissi</i> Lohmann, 1907	+	0	4	_	7	65S 92E 56S, 27W 47S, 38E	Wilhelm II Land S. Sandwich Marion Island	95–385	

coarse shell, sand,	holdfasts	holdfasts			holdfasts with sand	red algae	shell rubble		corallines	corallines, bivalves	sand, rubble, algae	sand with algae	corallines
tidal		shallows	shallow-58		shallows	shallows	tidal	tidal	tidal	tidal	12–16	low water	tidal
Chile	S. Georgia	Kerguelen	Kerguelen	Palmer Peninsula	Chile	Chile	Chile	S and SE Australia	SW Australia	Chile	Falklands	SW Australia	Chile
28-54S, 71-72W	54S, 37W	49S, 70W	50S, 70E	64S, 61W	53S, 72W	34S, 79W	18S, 70W	35-38S, 145-150E	32S, 115E	33S, 72W	52S, 58W	34S, 122E	26S, 80W
1		٠.	2		2	٠.	1-2	2		1	1	2	2
9		9	7		9	9	2-6	7		5	9	7	9
5		3	4		<i>~</i>	٠.	3	4		2	3-4	4	က
1-2		0	0		4-5	0	34	0		0	0	0	0
+		+	+		+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+
orandinora Newell, 1984		hureaui Newell. 1984	keronelensis Lohmann. 1907		lamellipes Newell, 1984	masatierrae Newell. 1984	multispina Newell, 1984	vinggi Otto, 1994	00	rectangulops Newell, 1984	reticulata Viets, 1950	septemsetosa sp. nov.	setosa Newell, 1984

Number of gland pores: a, one or more pairs of pores lacking; +, five pairs present; (+)s, one or more of the five pairs replaced by setae. P-2, number of spiniform processes:

1-4, number of bipectinate setae: 1-5, number of bipectinate setae: 1-6, number of bipectinate setae: Collecting area, coordinates:

Collecting area, state/province/island or sea area: Depth (in m): Habitat:

 Table 2
 Freshwater Lohmannella species and collecting data.

salinity	fresh	fresh	fresh	fresh	fresh, slightly brackish
country	France	Bulgaria	Bulgaria	Israel	Italy, Monte Negro
species	andrei (Angelier, 1951)	curvimandibulata (Petrova, 1966)	cvetkovi (Petrova, 1965)	heptapegoni Petrova, 1966	stammeri Viets, 1939

 Table 3
 The genus Simognathus. List of species, morphological characters and collecting data.

I II III IV V VI IV IV IX		sl 1+1 1+1 29-30N,28W Great Meteor Bank 476-511 sl 1+2 1+2 0,90W Galapagos tidal sl 1+1 1+1 0.90W Galapagos tidal	ch, 2000 re p/s ? 1+? 1+? 4S, 20E Kenya low water	s sl 1+1 1+1 16-19S, 145-150E NE Australia 0-15 p/s pe 1+1 1+1 16-19S, 145-147E NE Australia tidal p/s sl ? ? 18-53S, 70-72W Chile tidal	re p/s-p sl 1+1 1+2 15-195,145-152E NE Australia 0-15 re p/s ? 1+2 1+2(d) 175,149W NE Australia 5-15 la p/s sl 1+1 1+1 195,147-149E NE Australia 3-15	re p/s (12,43E	lago, 2004 la p+s sl? 1+1 1+1 24S, 45W Brazil tidal rocky shore la p/s sl 1+1 1+1 24S, 45W Brazil tidal rocky shore la s sl 1+1 1+1 32S, 115E SW Australia low water sand, corallines la p/s sl 1+2? 36S, 175E New Zealand tidal corallines
species	Northern Hemisphere (5–90N) adriaticus Viets, 1940 coreensis Chatterjee and Chang, 2004 la foecolatus Bartsch, 1991 la fuscus Viets, 1936 leiomerus Trouessart, 1894 re minor Bartsch, 1979	63) 14 777	and de Troch, 2000 ere (5–80S)	0			euplinactus l'epato and Trago, 2004 la fuscus Viets, 1936 la gibberosus Bartsch, 1994 la glaber Bartsch, 1986 la

medium to coarse sand worm tubes, holdfasts	algae	algae, corallines, holdfasts,				corallines, mussels, coarse sand	shell fragments, worm tubes	sand, rubble, coral fragments	coral block	sand and algae	sand	sand	Coarse sand	alpae, coarse sand, corral rubble	algae	coarse sand	coarse sand corral mibble	sand		sand	coral rubble	medium to coarse sand
30 tidal-shallows	tidal 0.5	tidal-278		88-278	92–113	tidal-190	tidal	9-0	low water	10-15	tidal	tidal	tidal	0.5–15	tidal	tidal	10	2–13		tidal	10	3–15
SW Australia Chile	South Africa SW Australia	Chile	Falklands		Macquarie Ridge	Chile	Chile	NE Australia	NW Australia	Philippines	NE Australia	NW Australia	SW Australia	NE Australia	Chile	NW Australia	NE Australia	SW Australia	NW Australia	SW Australia	NE Australia	NE Australia
32S, 115E 18–53S, 70–72W	30S, 30E 32S, 115E	53–55S, 71W	52S, 58W	54S, 159W	55S, 159E	26-33S, 72-80W	17-27S, 70-71W	15-28S,145-147E	21S, 117E	10S, 124E	16S, 145E	21S, 117E	32S, 115E	15-18S, 147-150E	34S, 79W	21S, 117E	19S, 149E	32S, 115E	21S, 116E	32S, 115E	19S, 149E	19-22S, 147-153E
1+1	1+2? 1+1	<i>د</i> .				~.	~.	1+1			1+2	1+1	1+1	1+1	۰.	1+2	1+1	1+1		1+2	1+1	1+1
1+1	1+2	<i>~</i> .				~٠	۲.	1+1			1+2	1+1	1+1	1+1	٠.	1+2	1+1	1+1		1+2	1+1	1+1
sl	s, w	sl				sl	sl	sl			sl	sl	sl	sl	sl	sl	ds	s]		sl	sl	sl
s p+s?	p+s? p/s	b/s				s/d	b+s;	b/s			S	S	S	s/d	b/s	s/d	s	p/s+p si		S	b/s	b/s
re la	la la	la				la	re	la			re	re	re	la	la	re	la	re		re.	la	la
gracilis Bartsch, 1994 Indingsi Newell, 1984	latitarsus Proches, 2002 maculatus Bartsch, 1994	magellanicus Newell, 1984				obtusus Newell, 1971	pectinatus Newell, 1984	platyaspis Otto, 2000			pygmaeus Otto, 2000	salebrosus Bartsch, 2003	scutatus Bartsch, 1993	specialis Otto, 2000	subobtusus Newell, 1984	tener Bartsch, 2003	trachys Otto, 2000	uniscutatus Bartsch, 1994		variolosus Bartsch, 1994	versicolor Otto, 2000	xandarus Otto, 2000

Shape of OC: re, reduced; la, large, triangular or rounded.

P-2. p/s, with protuberance and distal seta; p/s-p, with protuberance and distal seta and a small distal protuberance; p+s, protuberance and seta at same level; s, seta only, protuberance lacking.

1-5, shape of ventromedial seta: pe, bipectinate; sl, slender; sp, spiniform; w, wide though setiform.

III-6, number of ventral and parambulacral setae: 1+1, either one ventral and one parambulacral seta or two ventral setae and parambulacral setae lacking; 1+2, one ventral seta and pair of parambulacral setae; 1+2(d), one ventral seta and pair of parambulacral setae, one of pas doubled; 2+2, two ventral and pair of parambulacral setae. IV-6, number of ventral and parambulacral setae: character states as above.

Collecting area, coordinates:

Collecting area, state/province/island or sea area:

Depth (in m):

Habitat:

doubtful records excluded; ?, information lacking or in need of confirmation.

bathyal (0-500 m). Representatives of the genus inhabit coarse sand, rubble, crustose and other algae, seagrasses, colonies of polychaetes and barnacles. There is a strikingly high diversity in the Australian fauna (Figure 6), 12 species being recorded from Queensland and 10 species from Western Australia. Though knowledge of the halacarid fauna of New Zealand is meagre, two of the 23 marine species recorded are representatives of Simognathus. From the southern South American continent six Simognathus species are recorded (Newell, 1984). Almost 70 marine halacarid species are known in total (Newell 1984; Bartsch 1988b, 1989). In contrast, only two out of 90 species in the Mediterranean, and two out of the known 120 shallow water halacarid species in the northeastern Atlantic, belong to the genus Simognathus. From eastern North America there is just a single record (Bartsch 1979b).

Table 3 presents a list of Simognathus species, their geographical areas and habitats, and some of their morphological characters. Simognathus species can roughly be divided into those with large OC, round or triangular in shape, and those with the OC reduced to narrow sclerites which often are obscured by the striated integument. Other characters are the shape of P-2, with or without any protuberance, and the number and arrangement of tarsal setae. Both in the north and south there are species with reduced OC, and the reduction seems to be correlated with a mesopsammal life style. Palps with the seta of P-2 and the protuberance situated at the same level are present in northern as well as in southern species. According to the setation of tarsi III and IV, S. leiomerus and S. minor are closely related. Other siblings are S. abnormalus and S. salebrosus; they share the characters: tibia I widest near its base, tarsus I very short and rotated versus the leg's axis, and presence of epimeral fossae. These characters are absent in other species.

Looking at the present day distributional records, one may expect *Simognathus* to be a Gondwanan genus with several founder species dispersing to the European, North American and Asian coastlines. More detailed analysis is necessary to eluciate these patterns.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The three species described were collected during two Marine Biological Workshops in Western Australia, on Rottnest Island and in Esperance. The workshops were organized by Dr F. Wells and colleagues. The travel expenses were covered by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft. To all my sincerest thanks.

REFERENCES

- Bartsch, I. (1978). Halacaridae (Acari) aus der Tiefsee des atlantischen Ozenas. Cahiers de Biologie marine 19: 47– 62
- Bartsch, I. (1979a). Halacaridae (Acari) aus der Subantarktis. Cahiers de Biologie marine 20: 325–339.
- Bartsch, I. (1979b). Halacaridae (Acari) von der Atlantikküste Nordamerikas. Beschreibung der Arten. Mikrofauna Meeresboden 79: 1–62.
- Bartsch, I. (1982). Weitere Halacaridae (Acari) aus dem Kanal von Moçambique. *Cahiers de Biologie marine* **23**: 435–457.
- Bartsch, I. (1988a). Deep-sea halacarids (Acari) and description of a new species. *Journal of Natural History* 22: 811–821.
- Bartsch, I. (1988b). Thalassophthirius auster gen. et spec. nov., a halacarid mite (Acari) suspected of being a parasite. Polar Research 6: 181–184.
- Bartsch, I. (1989). Rhombognathus auster, a new rhombognathine mite (Acari, Halacaridae) from southern South America. Zoologica Scripta 18: 423–425.
- Bartsch, I. (1992). Lohmannella dictyota n. sp. und L. africana n. sp. von der Südhalbkugel (Arachnida: Acari: Halacaridae). Senckenbergiana biologia 72: 457–464.
- Bartsch, I. (1993a). Synopsis of the Antarctic Halacaroidea (Acari), *In J.W. Wägele and J. Sieg (eds) Synopses of the Antarctic Benthos* 4: 1–176. Koeltz Scientific Books, Koenigstein.
- Bartsch, I. (1993b). Arenicolous Halacaridae (Acari) from south-western Australia, In F.E. Wells, D.I. Walker, H. Kirkman & R. Lethbridge (eds), The Marine Flora and Fauna of Rottnest Island, Western Australia: 45–71.
 Western Australian Museum, Perth.
- Bartsch, 1. (1994). The genus *Simognathus* (Acari ; Halacaridae), description of six new species from southern Australia and a tabular key to all species. *Acarologia* **35**: 135–152
- Bartsch, I. (1996). Halacarids (Halacaroidea, Acari) in freshwater. Multiple invasions from the Paleozoic onwards. *Journal of Natural History* 30: 67–99.
- Bartsch, I. (2003a). Halacarids (Acari) from coral reefs off Norway, Northern Atlantic: Description of a new Agauopsis species. Entomologische Mitteilungen aus dem Zoologischen Museum Hamburg 14: 117–123.
- Bartsch, I. (2003b). Psammophilous halacarids (Halacaridae, Acari) from Dampier, Western Australia. Description of species and faunal comparison of the mesopsammal halacarid fauna of western and eastern Australia. Records of the Western Australian Museum 22: 23–45.
- Bartsch, I. (2004). Halacaridae (Acari) from the Great Meteor Seamount (Northeastern Atlantic). Description of Simognathus species. Mitteilungen aus dem hamburgischen zoologischen Museum und Institut 101: 185–196.
- Chatterjee, T. and Chang, C.Y. (2004). Simognathus coreensis, a new halacarid mite (Halacaridae: Acari) from Korea. Hydrobiologia 529: 271–274.
- Knox, G.A. (1963). The biogeography and intertidal ecology of the Australasian coast. *Oceanography and marine Biology, Annual Review* 1: 341–404.

- Lohmann H. (1907). Die Meeresmilben der Deutschen Südpolar-Expedition 1901–1903. Deutsche Südpolar Expedition 1901–1903, 9: 361–413.
- Makarova, N.G. (1977). Marine mites (Acarina, Halacaridae) of the intertidal zone of the Kurile Islands. Fauna pribreznih zon kurilskih ostrovov 125–143. (In Russian)
- Makarova, N.G. (1978). Marine mites (Acarina, Halacaridae) of the intertidal zone of the Gulf of Anadyr (Bering Sea). In O.G. Kussakin (ed.) The intertidal zone of the Bering Sea and southeastern Kanchatka 131–149. Publishing House Nauka, Moskau (In Russian, with English summary).
- Murray, A. (1877). Economic Entomology. Aptera. South Kensington Museum Handbooks, London, 433 pp.
- Newell, I.M. (1947). A systematic and ecological study of Halacaridae of eastern North America. *Bulletin of the Bingham oceanographic Collection* 10: 1–232.
- Newell, I.M. (1951). Further studies on Alaskan Halacaridae (Acari). American Museum Novitates 1536: 1–56.
- Newell I.M. (1984). Antarctic Halacaroidea. *Antarctic Research Series* **40:** 1–284.
- O'Hara, T.D. and Poore, G.C.B. (2000). Patterns of distribution for southern Australian marine echinoderms and decapods. *Journal of Biogeography* 27: 1321–1335.
- Otto, J.C. (1994). New species of Halacaridae from Australia (Acarina: Prostigmata). *Acarologia* 35: 31–48.
- Otto, J.C. (2000). Halacaridae from the Great Barrier Reef and Coral Sea: the genera Lohmannella, Scaptognathides and Scaptognathius (Acarina: Halacaridae: Lohmannellinae). Memoirs of the Queensland Museum 45: 535–555

- Pepato, A.R. and Tiago, C.G. (2004). The genera *Acaromantis* and *Simognathus* (Simognathinae, Halacaridae) on the north coast of São Paulo State, Brazil. *Zootaxa* **615**: 1–16.
- Pesic, V. (2004). Three interesting halacarid mite species (Acari: Halacaroidea) from Montenegro and Italy. *Lauterbornia* 49: 37–42.
- Ponder, W.F. and Wells, F.E. (1998). Distribution and relationships of marine and estuarine fauna. *In P.L. Beesley, G.J.B. Ross and A. Wells (eds), Mollusca: The Southern Synthesis. Fauna of Australia 5A, 77–80.* CSIR Publishing, Melbourne.
- Trouessart, E. (1889). Sur les acariens marins des côtes de France. Compte rendu de l'Académie des Sciences, Paris 108: 1178–1181.
- Trouessart, E. (1901). Note sur les acariens marins (Halacaridae) récoltés par M. Henri Gadeau de Kerville dans la région d'Omonville-la-Rouge (Manche) et dans la fosse de la Hague (Juin-Juillet 1899). Bulletin de la Société des amis des sciences naturelles de Rouen (Série 4) 14: 247-266.
- Viets, K. (1927): Die Halacaridae der Nordsee. Zeitschrift für wissenschaftliche Zoologie 130: 83–173.
- Wells, F.E. and Walker, D.I. (1993). Introduction. In F.E. Wells, D.I. Walker, H. Kirkman and R. Lethbridge (eds), The Marine Flora and Fauna of Rottnest Island, Western Australia: 1–10. Western Australian Museum, Perth.
- Wilson, B.R. and Allen, G.R. (1987). Major components and distribution of marine fauna. *In G.R. Dyne*, and D.W. Walton (eds), *Fauna of Australia 1A*, 43–68. Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra.

Manuscript received 4 August 2004; accepted 21 January 2005